# **NCRecovery.gov**





#### The North Carolina Office of Economic Recovery and Investment

On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama. ARRA provides increased support to several existing federal programs administered by states, creates new programs such as the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, and offers opportunities for states to apply for competitive grant programs.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's significant investment in North Carolina totaled almost \$19.5 billion, including assistance for those needing help the most through increases in unemployment benefits, Medicaid payments, and food stamps. In addition to those expanded services, ARRA gives hundreds of thousands of working North Carolinians a break through tax credits like the *Making Work Pay* tax credit and the *First Time Homebuyer's* tax credit.

The Recovery Act is not like earlier attempts to revive the nation's economy. It is not only a one-time infusion of federal funds; instead it is a long-term effort to restore economic expansion in the short-term, as well as prepare the nation's economy for stable, healthy long-term growth. Under the terms of the Recovery Act, support for North Carolina's economy will include both investments made directly by the federal government and investments of federal funds that are made under the oversight of the North Carolina state government.

#### American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Report,

# **Beaufort County**

Beaufort County received more than \$67 million in ARRA funding in grants, loans, and bonds. The following report outlines the various funding categories that contributed to the Beaufort County total.









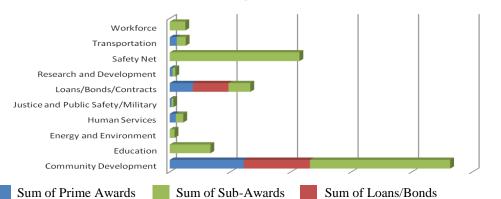
Pell Grants Awards: 1,300

Small Business Jobs: 69

Appliances rebated: 100

Family homes financed: 24





#### **Beaufort County,**

pop 44,958 at a glance:

#### **Recovery Act Totals:**

Grants: \$50,633,570.77 Loans: \$14,879,908 Bond: \$1,925,000 Total: \$67,438,478.77



The Recovery Act placed a special emphasis on maintaining education funding. Governor Beverly Perdue furthered this commitment by pledging additional recovery funds from the Recovery Act to education, and leading North Carolina to additional funds by winning \$400 million in the Race to the Top program.

Most of the ARRA education funds are distributed to local schools through existing funding formulas. Special Education Funds and Title I funds go to schools based on eligible student enrollment. State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF) and the EduJobs grants were designed to hold schools harmless during the recession, and were distributed to public and charter schools. The school systems have spent the majority of the funds on staff and support. Some projects, such as Race to the Top, will be spent for purchasing products and services rather than salaries for staff.

Authorization for low/no interest bonds for school construction/renovation followed the Department of Public Instruction procedures with initial allotments to the school systems. If a school system could not utilize their allotment, it was released to other school systems that could utilize additional allotments.

**Beaufort County schools** received \$8.3 million in education funding, including \$1.7 million in Special Education funds, \$1.3 million in Title I funds, \$4.3 million in SFSF funds, almost \$1 million in Race to the Top funding.

Pell Grants are an educational Assistance Program that provides grants to eligible students to receive post-secondary or vocational training. Because Pell Grants are not student loans, they allow students to receive financial assistance to further education and training without incurring additional debt. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act increased the eligibility and the maximum amount of Pell Grants in 2009 and 2010 as a way to encourage educational opportunities, and to provide a way for eligible applicants to gain new job skills.

**In Beaufort County,** Beaufort County Community College had 1,300 students funded by Pell Grants, worth more than \$1.8 million.



## **Family Assistance**

The Federal Department of Agriculture increased funding to their Single-Family home program with the ARRA. These resources assisted families in achieving the American Dream of home ownership through direct financial assistance (grants) or credit (loan guarantees). This program pumped more than \$729 million into North Carolina, providing assistance to more than 5,400 families.

In Beaufort County, 24 families received assistance through this program totaling more than \$2.7 million.

The Department of Energy created the Energy Star Appliance rebate program to help stimulate the economy by incentivizing the purchase of new, more energy efficient appliances, and helping consumers by providing long-term savings from their utility bills. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce managed the program insuring North Carolina residents and retailers received the maximum benefit from this opportunity. North

Carolina retailers sold more than 25,500 new energy efficiency appliances through this program, and North Carolina residents will enjoy energy savings for years to come. The program was so successful, that the State Energy Office reprogrammed additional funding to provide discounts to everyone participating in the program, bringing the total program value from \$8 up to \$10 Million.

Beaufort County retailers sold 100 appliances through the Energy Star Appliance rebate program.



#### **Small Business Assistance**

The ARRA provided tax breaks, increased depreciation of business assets, and incentives for hiring for small businesses through the tax law changes found in Part B of the Act. The Recovery Act also established direct aid programs through the federal Small Business Administration (SBA) and US Department of Agriculture (USDA). These programs provided grants, loans and loan guarantees to grant small businesses access to much-needed operational credit during 2009 and 2010.

**In Beaufort County** 8 small businesses received SBA loan guarantees worth more than \$1 million. According to the small businesses receiving these loans, the Recovery Act saved or created 69 jobs.



#### **Farm Assistance**

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program is administered by the Farm Services Administration in the federal Department of Agriculture, which provides assistance to farmers suffering crop losses due to natural disasters. To qualify for the program a farm must have lost at least 10% of one crop during a natural disaster in a declared disaster county, or lost 50% of a crop during a disaster in a non-disaster county. North Carolina farmers received more than \$9 million in total payments under the ARRA-Funded SURE Program.

In Beaufort County, \$683,006 was received in assistance to farmers because of crop loss to natural disasters.



#### **CARS Program**

The Car Allowance Rebate Program (CARS), more widely known as the 'Cash-for-Clunkers' program, provided an incentive for drivers of older, energy inefficient vehicles to upgrade to new cars. This program also provided a large economic impact in North Carolina, and North Carolina dealers received more than 18,000 trade-in vehicles through this program. North Carolina Car Dealers sold more than \$400,000,000 worth of new cars (recommended MSRP) through the CARS program. North Carolina drivers will save 172,130 miles per gallon through cars purchased through this program.

In Beaufort County, car dealers sold 30 cars worth almost \$816,000 through the ARRA CARS program.



### **Justice and Public Safety Programs**

ARRA increased funding to the federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grants Program (JAG). JAG funds were awarded both as a formula allocation to the State, for \$34.5 million, and grants distributed by the Governor's Crime Commission to various local governments and entities. In addition, \$21,853,798 went to 216 local governments across the state for various purposes in line with the requirements of the act. Finally, there is a federal competitive portion that was open to state or local government applicants.

In Beaufort County, The City of Washington received a competitive grant from the Department of Justice to combat crime and drugs worth \$191,000, and a JAG grant from the Governor's Crime Commission worth \$40,000. Beaufort County also received a grant from the Governor's Crime Commission worth \$62,000.



## **Broadband Programs**

The Recovery Act funded two dedicated high-speed broadband programs, the USDA's Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP), and the US Department of Commerce's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). The BIP focused on the creation of new service or the expansion of existing services in rural areas, while the BTOP focused on statewide or regional development of important broadband infrastructure.

**Beaufort County** will receive increased broadband service from a multi-county expansion from Tri-County Telephone Membership Corporation. This BIP grant is distributed between northeast Beaufort, Hyde, and Washington Counties, and worth more than \$14 million.



## **Environment and Natural Resources Programs**

ARRA funded several programs to protect the environment, or to develop natural resources more efficiently. These programs ranged from environmental clean-up, such as leaking underground storage tank abatement and Brownfields programs, to EPA clean air grants, wildfire prevention grants, and revolving funds to build, expand, or overhaul existing water and sewer programs. These programs provided nearly \$150 million across North Carolina.

**In Beaufort County,** the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service contracted for \$2.5 million to construct four earthen dikes, replace pipes and install tide gates for flood protection and water control along NC 45 and US 264.

# Safety Net Programs

Safety net programs are the category of ARRA funding that consists of programs designed to help populations made particularly vulnerable by the economic crisis. These generally include increases in existing programs, most notably the increase in both benefit level and duration of unemployment payments. Increases in the amount and duration of unemployment payments makes up the largest chunk of safety net programs funded through the Recovery Act, totaling more than \$3.5 billion statewide over more than two years. Safety net programs such as unemployment insurance and SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps), not only benefit the recipient, but have a proven economic impact on a community.

Beaufort County residents received almost \$15 million in Unemployment Insurance increases during the 2 ½ year ARRA benefits increase. County residents also received \$3.3 million in SNAP benefit increases, and \$3.1 million in one-time payments of \$250 to social security recipients.

### **Beaufort County Feature Story**

#### **Beaufort County Receives High-Speed Internet**

One of the important factors of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act was to promote the construction of important infrastructure and technological foundation for a 21<sup>st</sup> century economy. This meant increased spending for research, alternative energy, education, and the implementation and expansion of broadband services.

Titles I and II of part A of the Act, established the two major broadband implementation and expansion programs: the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP), and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). More than \$7 billion was available between the two programs for various projects.

North Carolina has received notice of more than \$280 million in BIP and BTOP projects. 81 North Carolina counties will receive funding or be traversed by a BIP or BTOP program. These programs include projects that support primary and higher education, public safety, economic development, serve vulnerable populations and provide direct broadband services to consumers.

The BIP was an existing program implemented by the Rural Utility Service in the federal Department of Agriculture. BIP focused on providing money to existing rural providers to expand and improve broadband services. One of the nine BIP recipients in North Carolina was the Tri-County Telephone Membership Co-op.

This approximately \$14 million award matched by more than \$2 million in private contributions, will allow Tri-County Telephone to offer broadband service using advanced technology in northeast Beaufort County, and parts of Hyde and Washington Counties. This project will deploy an advanced fiber optic network with inherent capability to deliver broadband service speeds of 80 megabytes of data per second (Mbps). The program will serve as a last-mile, fiber to the home program, delivering high-quality, high-speed internet to service areas.

Approximately 10,780 people stand to benefit, as do roughly 889 businesses and 32 community institutions. In addition to the more than 27 jobs the company estimates this project will create upfront, it will provide a foundation for economic growth and job creation for decades.

As of the Second Quarter of 2011 reporting period, Tri-

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"Local Telecommunications At its Best"
idrawn down funds for equipment and engineering needs.

TriCoun Telecor

County Telcom has completed all agreements, and drawn down funds for equipment and engineering needs. Construction on the program should begin soon.

# **Appendix, Beaufort County breakout**

Federal Agency	Program Title	Recipient name	Recipient role <sup>i</sup>	Prime Amount <sup>ii</sup>	Unique Sub Awards <sup>iii</sup>	Loans	Additional Economic Activity (not counted toward totals) <sup>iv</sup>
	Bonds		Р			\$1,925,000.00	•
	Cash for Clunkers		S		\$151,000.00		
	Federal Pell Grant Program	Beaufort County Community College	Р				
	Very Low to Moderate Income Housing Loans - Guaranteed	Individuals	L			\$2,743,103.00	
Administration for Children and Families	ARRA - Strengthening Communities Fund	Community Developers Of Beaufort Hyde Inc	Р	\$1,000,000.00		\$0.00	\$1,000,000.00
		Duke University Nonprofit Management Program	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$38,900.00
		NC Association For Community Development Corps.	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$4,200.00
		North Carolina Center For Nonprofits	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$9,995.00
	ARRA - Child Care and Development Block Grant	Beaufort, County Of	S	\$0.00	\$40,764.55	\$0.00	
Administration on Aging	Aging Congregate Nutrition Services for States	Mid-East Commission	S	\$0.00	\$65,075.00	\$0.00	
	Aging Home- Delivered Nutrition Services for States	Mid-East Commission	S	\$0.00	\$32,036.00	\$0.00	
	ARRA - Communities Putting Prevention to Work: Chronic Disease Self- Management Program	Mid-East Commission	S	\$0.00	\$34,696.00	\$0.00	
Department of Agriculture	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	Multiple Individuals	S		\$3,373,875.36		
	Aging	Beaufort County	SV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	

Health and Human Services	Congregate Nutrition Services for States	DSS					
	Aging Home- Delivered Nutrition Services for States	Beaufort County DSS	SV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Department of Housing and Urban Development	Public Housing Capital Fund Formula (Recovery Act Funded)	Mideast Regional Housing Authority (Inc	Р	\$659,203.00		\$0.00	\$659,203.00
	,	Washington Housing Authority	Р	\$861,097.00		\$0.00	\$861,097.00
Department of Justice	No CFDA for Contract type awards	Washington, City Of	Р	\$191,308.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
				\$40,234.00		\$0.00	\$40,234.00
	Recovery Act - Assistance to Rural Law Enforcement to Combat Crime and Drugs Competitive Grant Program	Washington, City Of	P	\$191,308.00		\$0.00	\$191,308.00
	Recovery Act - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program / Grants To Units Of Local Government	Beaufort, County Of	Р	\$62,042.00		\$0.00	\$62,042.00
	Government	Digital Ally	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$9,121.00
		Washington, City Of	Р	\$40,234.00		\$0.00	\$40,234.00
Department of Labor	Program of Competitive Grants for Worker Training and Placement in High Growth and Emerging Industry Sectors	Mid-East Commission	S	\$0.00	\$900,000.00	\$0.00	
	Unemployment Insurance	Multiple Individuals	S		\$14,944,569.35		
Federal Highway Administration	Highway Planning and Construction	AR Chesson Construction Company, Inc.	PV	\$0.00	\$22,400.00	\$0.00	
				\$0.00		\$0.00	\$22,400.00
		Greenville Pav. & Contr., Inc.	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
		North Carolina Department Of Transportation	Р	\$347,334.00		\$0.00	\$347,334.00

				\$27,601.00		\$0.00	\$27,601.00
				\$770,000.00		\$0.00	\$770,000.00
		Roberson Contracting, Inc.	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$293,640.44
Health Resources and Services Administration	ARRA - Grants to Health Center Programs	Metropolitan Community Health	Р	\$325,495.00		\$0.00	\$325,495.00
				\$137,559.00		\$0.00	\$137,559.00
Idaho Operations Office	Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program (EEARP)		Р			\$0.00	\$15,038.52
National Energy Technology Laboratory	State Energy Program	Washington, City Of	S	\$0.00	\$621,496.29	\$0.00	
Natural Resources Conservation Service	No CFDA for Contract type awards	Sawyer's Land Developing, Inc.	Р	\$2,487,614.25		\$0.00	\$2,487,614.25
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education	Education Technology State Grants, Recovery Act	Beaufort County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$35,306.00	\$0.00	
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Education State Grants, Recovery Act	Beaufort County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$3,898,713.00	\$0.00	
		Beaufort County Community College	S	\$0.00	\$421,290.71	\$0.00	
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Race-to-the-Top Incentive Grants, Recovery Act	Beaufort County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$933,391.00	\$0.00	
	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies, Recovery Act	Beaufort County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$1,372,161.00	\$0.00	
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services	Special Education - Preschool Grants, Recovery Act	Beaufort County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$63,259.00	\$0.00	
	Special Education Grants to States, Recovery Act	Beaufort County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$1,610,365.82	\$0.00	
		Washington	S	\$0.00	\$55,154.48	\$0.00	
Rural Housing	Community	Montessori Inc Beaufort,	P	\$100,000.00		\$0.00	\$100,000.00
Service	Facilities Loans and Grants	County Of					

		Washington, City Of	Р	\$0.00		\$3,000,000.00	\$3,000,000.00
Rural Utilities Service	Broadband Initiatives Program	Tri-County Telephone Membership Corporation	P	\$10,610,410.00		\$0.00	\$10,610,410.00
				\$0.00		\$3,536,805.00	\$3,536,805.00
Small Business Administration	Loans	Atlantic Custom Works Incorpor	L			\$35,000.00	
		Brooks Boatworks, Inc.	L			\$10,000.00	
		Coastline Equipment, LLC	L			\$810,000.00	
		Executive Personnel Group, Llc	L			\$50,000.00	
		G.W. Walker & Sons, Inc	L			\$35,000.00	
		Lighthouse Family Medicine Pll	L			\$35,000.00	
		Poffenberger Animal Hospital,	L			\$25,000.00	
		Steven C. Fuchs	L			\$200,000.00	
SSA	Social Security Economic Recovery Act Payments	Multiple Individuals	P		\$3,107,250.00		
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - civil program financing only	No CFDA for Contract type awards	Young's General Contracting, Inc.	Р	\$1,099,327.96		\$0.00	\$1,099,327.96
<b>Grand Total</b>				\$18,950,767.21	\$31,682,803.56	\$16,804,908.00	\$30,089,559.17

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Recipient Role are as follows: P is a prime recipient; S is a Sub-recipient; PV is a vendor to a prime recipient; SV is a vendor to a sub-recipient; L is a loan recipient.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>ii</sup> Prime Amounts are unique prime awards within a county. These are entities who have received funding directly from a federal agency, and are required to report directly to <a href="www.federalreporting.gov">www.federalreporting.gov</a>

Unique Sub Awards are amounts that flow into a county from a source that is NOT directly from a Federal Agency. Generally these are funds awarded to the North Carolina State Government that have been directed to a local source.

iv Additional Economic Activity are economic activity attributable to a previous funding category. They may be a sub award by a prime recipient within a county, or a contract funded by one of the previous three columns. This economic activity is not counted toward the county total.